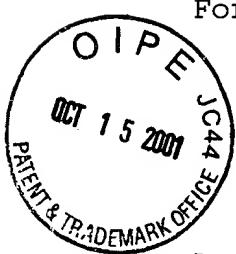


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Office of Initial Patent Examination
To be forwarded to: the Special Program Law Office
PATENT
0471-0260P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: ALLEGRETTI, Marcello et al. Conf.:
Appl. No.: 09/830,449 Group: Unassigned
Filed: April 27, 2001 Examiner: Unassigned
For: A Process for the Preparation of Alpha Arylalkanoic
Acids



DECLARATION ACCOMPANYING PETITION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.47(a)

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

We, Marcello ALLEGRETI, Maria Candida CESTA, and Marco MANTOVANINI, residing at Via Campo di Pile, L' AQUILA, Italy, hereby declare as follows:

We are citizens of Italy;

We are listed as co-inventors, together with Luca NICOLINI on U.S. patent application number 09/830,449;

We are further listed as co-inventors, together with Luca NICOLINI, on Italian patent application number MI98A002332, filed on October 30, 1998, which is the priority document for the above-referenced application.

We hereby declare that Mr. NICOLINI, the non-signing inventor, cannot be reached or located, notwithstanding diligent effort, or refuses to sign the oath or declaration after having been presented with the application papers (specification, claims, drawings and declaration).

Specifically, two certified letters were sent to the last known address of Mr. NICOLINI on May 15, 2001 and July 2, 2001. Translations of each are attached hereto along with a copy of the registered mail receipts. Mr. NICOLINI has failed to sign these documents or provide any reason for his refusal to sign.

Due to his refusal to sign or inability to be found, no further vain attempts have been made to have Mr. NICOLINI sign any document including the Combined Declaration and Power of Attorney submitted herewith pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.47(a).

The undersigned further declare that the above-identified application may be prosecuted in their names to preserve the rights of the parties and to prevent irrevocable damage by the loss of the priority date.

The undersigned hereby declare that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are believed to be true, and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Marcello ALLEGRETTI

26/09/01

Marcello ALLEGRETTI

Date

MariaCandidaCESTA

26/09/01

Maria Candida CESTA

Date

Marco MANTOVANINI

26/09/01

Marco MANTOVANINI

Date

I hereby appoint the practitioners at CUSTOMER NO. 2292 as my attorneys or agents to prosecute this application and/or an international application based on this application and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith and in connection with the resulting patent based on instructions received from the entity who first sent the application papers to the practitioners, unless the inventor(s) or assignee provides said practitioners with a written notice to the contrary:

Send Correspondence to:

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP or CUSTOMER NO. 2292

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Telephone: (703) 205-8000 • Facsimile: (703) 205-8050

PLEASE NOTE:
YOU MUST
COMPLETE
THE
FOLLOWING:
↓

Full Name of First
or Sole Inventor:
Insert Name of
Inventor
Insert Date This
Document is Signed
→

Insert Residence
Insert Citizenship
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Address
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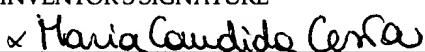
Full Name of Second
Inventor, if any:
see above

Full Name of Third
Inventor, if any:
see above

Full Name of Fourth
Inventor, if any:
see above

Full Name of Fifth
Inventor, if any:
see above

Full Name of Sixth
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GIVEN NAME/FAMILY NAME	INVENTOR'S SIGNATURE	DATE*
Residence (City, State & Country)		CITIZENSHIP
MAILING ADDRESS (Complete Street Address including City, State & Country)		
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MAILING ADDRESS (Complete Street Address including City, State & Country)		